

The Pocahontas Times.

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DR. O. J. CAMPBELL,

Dentist,

MORRISTOWN, VA.

Will visit Pocahontas county at least twice a year. The exact date of his visit will appear in this paper.

DR. ERNEST B. HILL,

DENTIST,

Marlinton and Academy, W. Va.

Graduate University of Maryland. Dentistry practiced in all its branches.

G. W. DUNCAN,

Practical Land Surveyor,

Buckeye, W. Va.

All calls by phone and mail promptly answered.

West Virginia Citizens Trust and Guarantee Company

AN ARTFUL DODGER.

Got out by the Tax Reform Committee.

The artful dodger in this case is a poster issued by the Secretary of the late Tax Commission showing what a blessing it would be to the several counties of the State if would consent to be relieved of the thirty-five cents State land tax, and in return pay one half of its criminal charges and \$100 per annum for each inmate the county has in the State institutions.

Pocahontas County occupies one line in the dodger. It is shown that this county has land assessed at \$2,411,178. Personal property to the value of \$515,084; pays State tax, \$10584.93; state pays for this county criminal charges of \$682.03; he has 12 inmates of the insane, asylums and two at the deaf and blind schools; under new law it would have to pay \$1741.02; amount we would gain as a county if relieved of the 35 cents tax, \$85,843.91.

We could build a bridge across Greenbrier every year. It is like counting up the profits in the poultry business. Why do we not embrace the opportunities held out to us. We surely must be a stiff necked generation. We would even risk being unconstitutional for \$8,843.91.

The grand total to be provided for by other means is the \$531,648.76 as this will be the amount saved to the counties. This must hurt somebody and it seems to us that we recently heard some twenty eight persons or so cry out that they were in danger of some great bodily harm and there we may look for the sore.

Republicans just now are divided into two great camps and it looks to us that if Mr. Dawson be nominated for Governor as the exponent of the question of tax reform that great numbers of influential Republicans will protect the constitution with their lives. They love Mr. Dawson more, and they follow it without flinching. Therefore with the eyes of a lawyer looking down their faces they will be compelled to beat Mr. Dawson for the good of mankind. On the other hand if Mr. Dawson is not nominated and instead some wise child who does not have disagreeable theories, the much battered tax reformers will feel so hurt that they may not be able to come to the polls.

It looks like a case where some oil is needed upon the troubled waters.

In the calculations made by Mr. Phillips it will be seen that the county of Mingo will be the only county that will suffer being the exception which proves the rule. With a taxable value of less than one half of Pocahontas County her criminal expenses as paid by the State now amount to \$8087.70. This county is in such a bad way that she has been given up by the tax doctors and there is no hope for her.

In an editorial concerning the value of the county paper, the Atlanta Constitution says: "If any man in Georgia is taking the Constitution and is not taking his county paper on the plea that he cannot afford both, we say to him frankly he should cut the Constitution and take his home paper."

A tree valued at \$1500 was recently cut at Waynesboro, North Carolina. It was a curly poplar and will be put on exhibition at St. Louis during the Louisiana Purchase Exposition. Twelve horses were required to move the butt cut, which was twelve feet long.

The report of the State Mine Inspector shows that West Virginia's last second place in the production of coal this year on account of the prolonged strike but from present indications she will climb back the coming year. The production was 23,000,000 tons, a decrease of 300,000 below the output of 1903.

TRAGEDY ON THE FARM.

The Death of the Family Cow.

The cow was sick. She was a big fat cow, broad across the back, and a general favorite with the family. To every one of her human friends that came to see her and view her with anxious eyes she would solicit help with a plaintive moo.

It was soon discovered that she was suffering from an obstruction in the epiglottis or an apple in the throat.

Many were the suggestions to give her aid. It was recalled that a neighbor who had a calf in like condition had taken the suggestion of an innocent bystander to break the apple with a stone. The apple was pounded to pulp but it killed the calf.

The doctor came riding by and he advised distending the apple with a whip stock. The whip stock reached the apple and passed through. When it was withdrawn it was found that the cow could take in breath but could not expel it, the office in the apple opening and shutting like a valve. The patient was rapidly becoming worse. Then it was suggested that the boy run his arm down her throat and remove the apple.

An iron strip was procured and the cow's mouth propped open and the boy bared his arm and ran it down the sufferer's throat and while he was working with the apple to loosen it, the iron strip slipped and the cow shut her mouth, leaving marks that did not disappear for months.

All physicians were in vain and the cow died.

Greater New York.

Next Friday young George B. McClelland will take charge of an army almost as big as that which his father commanded in the first famous campaign against Richmond. As mayor of Greater New York he becomes the supreme head of a peaceable army of 45,000 policemen, and as administrator of affairs of the city he will hold a purse almost as large as that of President Lincoln at the outbreak of the Civil War. More or less directly under his control \$200,000,000 will be expended, a sum equal to one third of all the gold money in circulation in the United States. This sum includes \$100,000,000 which has already been appropriated for the expenses of the various municipal departments during the ensuing year and \$100,000,000 more which the city may spend on public improvements. The most important of all the city government is the Department of Education, which has to do with the instruction of the half million children who live within the limits of Greater New York. Mayor McClelland can make his power felt in the Board of Education, which is authorized to spend \$21,000,000 of the city's money.—Ex.

Smoot, Senator-elect from Utah, is having some trouble in holding his job on account of charges preferred against him for being a poligamist. While hating Mormons and all heretics with a fervor equal to the feeling which prompted our fathers of the sixteenth century to burn at the stake all who were so unfortunate as to have different religious beliefs, we hold that if poligamy is sanctioned by the laws of the United States and allowed to be practiced in Utah, Smoot should be allowed to take his seat in the Senate. If poligamy does exist there as is stated and conclusively proven in the charges against Smoot, immediate action should be taken to abolish it as a whole and not persecute a single devotee who has aspirations to sit in high places when the whole organization goes free.

Mr. Amos Dilley and son William of Dilley's Mill were at Marlinton Monday at the risk of life, shot horses and huts, such was the slippery condition of the roads.

WE NEED A HOTEL.

Give Us A Modern, Up-to-date Hostelry.

The need of a palatial hotel is greatly felt at Marlinton at this time. Every day we send forth a crowd of traveling men who warn all they meet not to be stranded in Marlinton for the comforts of a hotel will be denied them.

Men who come here on business leave with the hope that they will never have to come back again.

Next summer there will be a through train on the road that will pass the lumber town of the West Branch of the Greenbrier without delay. The lumber kings of that region all go to Elkins now to stay at night. Elkins gets the benefit of their trade, banking business, and professional needs. If we had a good hotel we could secure the patronage of such business men all over the country.

There is a plan on foot now which we hope will materialize to build a big brick hotel, with all the modern improvements, such as water, electric lights, and steam heat to be finished in the next six months.

It is the one thing we need to develop the town and to make it grow.

Fred Wade who has been in Iowa the past year, has returned to Pocahontas.

Hinton has a \$25,000 fire Thursday morning. The Dunn & Hume business block was burned and a large stock of merchandise many office outfits and the equipment of thirteen secret organizations destroyed. The loss is covered in part by insurance.

A negro lawyer named Walker has come to the United States from New Brunswick firm in the intention of being the Moses to lead his race to Central Africa, and is getting a lot of free advertising in the northern papers who have ever shown a readiness to settle the negro question at a distance.

Ruth Cleveland eldest born of Ex-President Grover Cleveland is dead. She was born just before Mr. Cleveland received the nomination which resulted in his filling the President's chair the second time. As "Baby Ruth" she was known the whole world over.

The mails are being flooded with circulars booming W. R. Hurst for President of the United States, started of course, by Mr. Hurst himself. He could not be much more unfitted for the position than the present incumbent, but we do not believe their fellow citizens are owing the place to either. One would think the manager of the "greatest show on earth" and the other as a leader of a Wild Bill Congress of Rough Riders, but as chief executives of a great nation, they are not fitted.

Work on all the Yabash extensions in West Virginia has been suspended for indefinite period. The contractors are discharging men or moving them to other work, oiling machinery, stabling mules and generally preparing for a long shut down. As usual little satisfaction can be gotten out of the men in charge and the anxious residents along the proposed road does not know when they will get a road if ever. We can appreciate their feeling in the matter in no small measure, for we too saw contractors pick up their tents and steal away after ground had been broken on the Greenbrier Division. This is an old game in railway building to gain concessions and thing but there is always the possibility that it is not a bluff that causes unrest among the people and brings them to tears.

C. & O. REDUCES FARE.

On the Greenbrier Division to 3-10 Per Mile.

With the beginning of the year the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway reduced the fare on the Greenbrier Division from four cents to 3 2-10 per mile. This reduction is appreciated by the people of this section. There has been little or no protest against the longer fare as everyone realized that an immense expenditure of money was necessary to give this county a railway and it would have been the basest ingratitude to have rebelled against any lawful charge.

Mr. Pierce, the Superintendent, is a wide awake railroad man and is always on the alert to secure to his division anything in the way of a convenience or accommodation to the public that may be granted.

The business done by the new railway is rapidly increasing.

Farmers' Home Fire Insurance Co.

For the information of the public and the encouragement of the members, we deem it proper, with the beginning of the new year, to make a brief statement in regard to the general condition of this company.

We may say in a word that never since its organization has the Farmers' Home been in such excellent condition nor so secure in the confidence and support of its members. The growth of the company has been most satisfactory and that without any special effort, during the last three years, to enlarge membership. We now have something over 700 members, all in good standing, and the amount of insurance carried exceeds \$800,000. We have gotten rid of all members who did not pay when called upon, and are now writing insurance only in the four counties of the Greenbrier Valley—Greenbrier, Pocahontas, Monroe and Summers—being prohibited by the constitution from going beyond these limits. We keep no agents in the field, and take none but good risks. The Company does not owe a dollar and no man has ever lost a dollar by it. In the past 15 months we have had but one loss, and that of only \$475. During the year insurance in the Farmers' Home has cost the members only \$1.45 on the \$1,000. The running expenses are not much more than nominal considering the amount of insurance carried, and will not exceed \$550 a year. Secretary's salary included. Can you find another company that can make a better showing or in which insurance is cheaper and safer?

The Constitution and By-Laws have been thoroughly revised, published in book form, and a copy will now be sent by the Secretary to every member. Read them over carefully and note new provisions.

We desire every member to bear in mind that the treasury of the Farmers' Home is in the pockets of its members and that the credit, the success, the life of the Company depends absolutely upon a prompt response to calls. If you fail to respond promptly, when called upon to meet a loss, the Company will be unable to meet its obligations and will, of course, suffer in the confidence of the public. In this connection we ask all members to read carefully section 3 of the By-Laws and note that if you fail to pay in forty days you cannot recover in case of loss. Prudence and wisdom suggest the folly of taking such a risk.

The Farmers' Home is now a well established institution, deserving the confidence of the people, and we do not hesitate to commend it to the farmers of the Greenbrier Valley.

Respectfully,

THOMAS H. DUNN,

Local Director.

HOWARD C. BRADEN,

Secretary.

Lewisburg, W. Va.

OUR NEXT PRESIDENT.

Poor Mr. Roosevelt Monied Friends Leaving Him.

Alfred Henry Lewis has had three articles in the Saturday Evening Post on the next Presidential campaign. He is a very pleasant writer and his reasoning seems more or less sound.

He thinks that Roosevelt will be nominated with Hanna second by the Republicans, and that Gorman and Parker will lead the Democratic ticket. He then thinks that as Roosevelt is such a noble hearted, disinterested man, and that Gorman is such a selfish, cold blooded monied man that Roosevelt will win at the polls. He argues that the great money interests will support Gorman this year and that it will be powerless to defeat the great and good Roosevelt, because of the antics of the United States Steel and Shipbuilding Trust. Money is no longer the favorite it was.

Democrats how does this strike you. We bought the money power for two campaigns. We even intimated that J. P. Morgan was a dangerous man to trade horses with. We did not have enough people in the party to a campaign fund large enough to buy bread for the bosses' destitute families. We then hugged ourselves in the delightful anticipation that some day or other the American public would see that money is the root of all evil, and that J. P. Morgan even was not to be trusted farther than you could throw a bull by the tail.

Then would money be rebuked and every other Democrat would be a postmaster.

And time bore us out. Morgan and his friends went a trusting and lifted more dollars from the public than they could store in their barns. The virtue of the Democrats was to be their only reward, for now we are solemnly told that all these hords of pirates are Democrats supporting Mr. Gorman and antagonizing Mr. Roosevelt. Is not that enough to make a Democrat tear his hair and rave?

We can safely assert that if the administration at Washington has antagonized the monied interests that it has forgotten the men and the power that put it there, and the lowest round of hell is reserved by Dante for those who are ungrateful. We hope the monied men are with us and if we get the rich and the poor both, we will give the country a good sweeping next November. Certainly no Democrat will leave his party just as light is breaking in the East, and the addition of a few chastened millionaires will be all that is necessary.

A writer in the Fayette Free Press takes exceptions to tobacco users. The smell of them seems to trouble him. He will either have to use the weed in self defense or get off the earth when he can no longer stand the fumes and amber for it is better than one should perish than that humanity be deprived of this source of great comfort. We will not dwell upon the fact that it is easier for a multitude to acquire the habit than for an individual to quit. Besides the writer should realize that we are responsible in no small degree for the support and maintenance of the tobacco grower, but the manufacturer, cigar maker and kindred industries as well. Were all these deserving people thrown out of employment suffering would ensue, as we could not possibly provide places for all in the foreign mission field.

Notice.

There will be a meeting of the Republican Executive committee held at the office of the chairman in the court house on Saturday, January 23, 1904. Let every member be present. All Republicans invited to attend.

N. C. McNEIL,

Chairman.

IN THE WINTER TIME.

The Season of our Discontent.

Now is the winter of our discontent. Everybody wishes he had somebody else's job. Those out of work are hungering for employment and those with a load are thirsting for a rest. The farmer longs for a warm office and a chair and appearance of ease and the occupant of that chair fairly inches to be away on top of some wind swept ridge throwing fodder to a bunch of calves, where the man with a statement cometh not, and the bracing atmosphere hollows a place on the inside of a man, creating a desire for food such as those self same inwardly have not known for many a month. But it is a rather poor sort of a man who is not thankful for his bed these winter nights, but even this denied the doctor whose duties have him on the down hill haul to such an extent that he is almost afraid to go to bed, because he feels it in his bones that he will be routed out before morning. The chances are that his services will be needed but if he is allowed to rest, his slumbers are not as peaceful as they would be had he but the assurance of a whole night at home. Taking the general run of patients, their condition is preferable to that of the doctor. The greater percent of sick people get well but the doctor is never given time to recover.

Lobelia.

The epidemic of measles having subsided, the health of the people of this community is about normal.

Some of the boys came from the Cherry River Lumber camps last week and report that some of the camps have ceased to employ native laborers, the camps being filled with foreigners mostly Australians.

Alpha Hull and William Bruffy have gone to Richwood.

Winter having set in very early and she fall being uncommonly dry we find some corn still in the shock and it seems that the wild turkeys are taking advantage of the protection afforded them by the state and are destroying some of the corn.

We heard a neighbor tell a Deputy Game Warden that the turkeys were eating his corn up, and that he must keep them put, who had kindly remarked that he had been up the other day and "dogged them out."

One of John Boblets children is very sick. It is threatened with diphtheria.

Our genial and highly esteemed friend Dr. Wall after spending a week with friends at home has returned and is ready to render medical aid to those in need of it.

Rev. Charles Lynch filled his appointment at Emmanuel Sunday evening admirably. He read the general rules, preached an excellent sermon, after which he opened the doors of the church.

Changed Circumstances.

"Section 66. No person shall be admitted to take the freeman's oath, or vote at an election, until he has obtained the approbation of the board of civil authority of the town in which he resides."

No, gentle reader the above is not taken from the statute book of some overbearing Southern Sovereignty, nor is its object the taking away of the poor black man's vote. It is a law that is in force in Vermont. We don't know and don't care to know the reasons for its embodiment in their code for undoubtedly there was policy in its enactment. The northern manifestation of love for the negro has been too loud and long to admit of the supposition that they were hitting at him. Besides they are not burdened with him. But we are wondering in our own weak ineffectual way why Vermont can have such a radical measure as this and nothing said about it while a southern state cannot enact a law insuring millions without opening in open act with a national constitution.

ICE CONDITIONS.

The Worst Ever Recorded.

Never before has the whole face of nature been clothed in ice like unto the ice of this year of cold waves and weather. All have suffered falls and many have been injured many seriously and some perhaps fatally. Accidents with horses have been remarkably few however, as the roads are a solid sheet of ice. Between Cass and Greenbank large timbers had to be spiked to the ice on the lower side to prevent vehicles from sliding over.

The lumbermen are making good use of ice in skidding logs. A trail of logs can hardly be made long enough to load a team. We hear of one teamster bringing out 60 logs in a single trail. The grabs and couplers required for a trail like this in themselves would almost make one horse a load at any other time.

A Pennsylvanian in speaking about the dangerous condition of the roads, said that we did not prepare for it properly. There is a device for roughing horses which can be put on without removing the shoe. The calks are fastened by clamps, and can be put on or removed with a wrench. The outside is much softer metal than the core of the calk, which is hardened steel. The outside wears down much faster and the more the calk is used the sharper it becomes.

Farm Bulletins.

The following letter has been received by N. C. McNeil, chairman of the Republican Executive Committee from Hon. J. H. Gaines, our efficient representative in Congress, concerning the distribution of bulletins dealing with every subject pertaining to agriculture. The Department of Agriculture has spared no pains in getting up these bulletins, and of a consequence they are of the greatest value to the farmer. The ones upon fruit growing, farm buildings stock raising, and the regeneration of soils by the use of clovers and like plants are of especial importance. We hope every one interested will take advantage of this opportunity of securing these books which are the record of actual experiments in the subject with which they deal.

Dear Sir:—I mail you a few farm bulletins. The Department of Agriculture publishes a large number of these, as per enclosed list, and they are exceedingly useful to farmers. It would give me great pleasure to mail copies to the farmers in your county, if I knew which ones they wanted. At any time any of them will drop me suggestions by postal card, I shall be glad to send them bulletins treating of the subjects in which they are interested.

Very truly yours,

JOSEPH H. GAINES.

Washington, D. C.

Richmond Theatre Disaster of 1811.

The recent burning of the Iroquois Theater in Chicago with its attendant loss of life recalls the burning of the Richmond Theatre in 1811; the story of which has lived in the minds of the people almost a hundred years. The time was the evening after Christmas and the play the "Bleeding Nun," but recently translated and being rendered in the South the first time. The building was crowded not only with the "quality" but the Governor and the most distinguished functionaries of the State. In shifting the scenes a chandelier was knocked over and the stage was soon in flames. The people did not become alarmed when the actors were fighting the fire thinking it a part of the evening entertainment. But when the alarm was given the crowd became panic stricken and in two stampede 35 persons perished among whom were 80 ladies of the best old Virginia families, also the then Governor of Virginia, George W. Smith.